



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 22 October 2003

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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## Daily Overview

- The New York Times reports the United States has won agreement from governments across Asia and the Pacific Rim to restrict the use and transfer of shoulder-fired missiles that could be used by al Qaeda and other terrorist groups to shoot down passenger planes. (See item [4](#))
- FOX News reports some terrorism experts say the real threat to the U.S. immigration policy may come from lax Canadian immigration laws. (See item [18](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *October 21, St. Louis Business Journal (MO)* — **Equipment problem shuts down Callaway nuke plant.** AmerenUE planned to shut down its Callaway Nuclear Plant near Fulton, MO, at noon Tuesday, October 21, because of an equipment problem. In a statement, the company said a power inverter failed Monday, October 20. **It will stop operating the plant temporarily to comply with technical specifications that require shutdown if the problem cannot be fixed within 30 hours, the company said. The inverter feeds electrical power to instrumentation that monitors plant conditions.** The company said the event was not an emergency and did not present any danger to the public.

Source: <http://stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2003/10/20/daily31.html>

2. *October 21, New York Times* — **Flaw is found in plan to bury nuclear waste.** The Energy Department's (DOE) design for burying nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, near Las Vegas, NV, would cause corrosion that would perforate the waste containers and allow leaks, an expert panel is preparing to advise the department. **Nuclear waste gives off heat as well as radiation, and the DOE is considering taking advantage of that by spacing the waste containers closely. That would heat the tunnels to nearly 300 degrees Fahrenheit in the first few decades, a factor that, the department says, would keep the metal dry and thus prevent corrosion.** But the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, a panel created by Congress to advise the department, believes otherwise, according to a letter the members have drafted. The draft letter, circulated on Monday, October 20, said **two new sets of laboratory tests "cast doubt on the extent to which the waste package will be an effective barrier under the repository conditions that have been presented to the board."** One board member, Thure E. Cerling, a professor of biology and of geology and geophysics at the University of Utah, said that the problem was that "most reactions take place faster at higher temperatures," and that this included rust.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/21/politics/21NUKE.html>

3. *October 16, Computerworld* — **Utilities struggle with ways to tackle cybersecurity. More than 40 Chief Information Officers (CIO) from the energy industry at a conference this week agreed that cyber and terrorist threats to their infrastructures are on the rise.** Similar to executives in other sectors of the economy, they said their industry is being pressed to protect all things all the time — with little or no assistance from the government. "The problem is that there is no acceptance of how to prioritize vulnerabilities and threats," said one CIO, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Gary Gardner, CIO of the American Gas Association in Washington, acknowledged that if the energy infrastructure is going to be treated as a critical national–security asset, then the role of government in funding and regulation must be clarified. **Less than half of the 44 gas and electric company CIOs polled during the meeting said their companies belong to an information sharing and analysis center to share security information with the government. The same number of CIOs said their companies don't conduct detailed background investigations on employees with access to sensitive internal computer systems.**

Source: <http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0,10801,86119,00.html>

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## **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

4. *October 21, New York Times* — **U.S. reaches deal to limit transfers of portable missiles. The United States has won agreement from governments across Asia and the Pacific Rim to sharply restrict the use and transfer of shoulder–fired missiles that could be used by al Qaeda and other terrorist groups to shoot down passenger planes, senior Bush**

**administration officials said Monday, October 20.** They said the U.S. was pressing to have the restrictions on the missiles, like the American-made Stinger and the Russian-made SA-7, written into the final statement that will be issued at this week's meeting in Bangkok of President Bush and his counterparts from Asian and Pacific nations. Administration officials said the American proposal reflected a growing fear among intelligence and law-enforcement agencies that al Qaeda planned new attacks with the weapons. **American officials said the statement in Bangkok was likely to call for all Asian and Pacific Rim nations, including the United States, to adopt formal controls over their inventories of small surface-to-air missiles and to ban any transfer of the weapons to "nonstate end-users," like guerrilla groups or terrorists.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/21/politics/21MISS.html>

5. *October 20, CBS News* — **Laser weapons in U.S. sights.** U.S. scientists are on the verge of creating a laser weapon that could give American forces an awesome advantage on the battlefield, according to an Oakland Tribune report. **After 40 years of work, the Pentagon may have a solid-state laser in its arsenal within a decade. Compared to the chemical lasers now in use by America's military, solid-state lasers would be compact and efficient – perhaps running off the engine of an Army Humvee or an Air Force F-16.** Solid-state lasers would also be deadly. In a recent demonstration at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory — one of three sites of research on a solid-state laser — a test-fired laser emitted 400 pulses of light in two seconds, drilling through an inch of steel. **Once fully developed, solid-state lasers could shoot down mortars and artillery shells, explode ordnance in enemy depots and even wipe out ballistic missiles 500 miles away. They would strike with incredible speed and could be retargeted instantly.**

Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/10/20/tech/main578998.shtml>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

6. *October 20, Associated Press* — **Officials report on banks and markets performance during blackout and hurricane.** The nation's financial system functioned well during this year's massive power outage and Hurricane Isabel, with no panic on the markets and only temporary disruptions to consumers, federal officials told Congress on Monday, October 20. **Officials from the Federal Reserve, the Treasury Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission said the largest power blackout in U.S. history, in August, and September's hurricane caused few disruptions thanks in part to the backup systems that have been put in place in recent years. Officials saw no evidence of panic selling in financial markets or any bank runs caused by either event, which they credited to good advance preparations and efforts by authorities to let the public know quickly how the events were affecting operations.** "These recent events caused minimal disruption to financial services, demonstrating once again the resilience of the U.S. financial system," Wayne Abernathy, Treasury assistant secretary for financial institutions, told the House Financial Services oversight subcommittee. During both the power blackout and Hurricane Isabel, key financial markets, banks and bank payment systems put in operation contingency plans and used backup power sources to continue offering critical services.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/news/archive/20>

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## **Transportation Sector**

7. *October 21, Associated Press* — **Box cutter case prompts air-safety vows. The Bush administration pledged Tuesday to move more aggressively against potential threats in the wake of an incident in which federal authorities said a young man boasted about successfully compromising airline security.** "The system should have picked it up. If this highlights a flaw in the system, it could be relatively easily corrected," TSA spokesman Mark Hatfield acknowledged in an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America." **Hatfield conceded Tuesday that the TSA must help its employees become more capable of recognizing the threatening messages among some 5,700 complaints, queries, compliments and other comments that flow daily into the agency's Contact Center.** Hatfield said layers of airline security have been added since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Even if a passenger got a forbidden item past a checkpoint, he said on NBC's "Today" show, there are other safeguards built in, such as strengthened cockpit doors and the presence in many instances of onboard air marshals.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/nation/ny-uscutter1021.0.6855167.story?coll=ny-nationalnews-headlines>

8. *October 21, Reuters* — **Florida firefighters handle sick airport workers. Part of a Fort Lauderdale Hollywood International Airport terminal was evacuated this morning after five workers got sick Tuesday.** Firefighters evacuated the Southwest Airlines baggage claim area on the first floor of terminal one. The five employees started coughing and complaining of shortness of breath after they came into contact with a certain piece of luggage. **A Hazmat crew checked it out and determined the suspicious smell was coming from a bottle of perfume.**

Source: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=sectionId=46&id=20503>

9. *October 21, Federal Computer Week* — **FAA radar goes digital. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) took another step today toward the modernization of air traffic control by announcing the first all-digital radar system is ready for national deployment.** The Airport Surveillance Radar-11 system will replace analog radars and provide improved digital data on aircraft and weather. This project is a joint effort between the Defense Department and the FAA, an agency of the Transportation Department. The system will provide digital data for use by other air traffic control modernization efforts of the FAA, including the Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System. That system has been providing radar data to the STARS system being tested at the Philadelphia International Airport. **"Digital radar is a critical component of a modernized airspace system," said FAA Administrator Marion Blakey. "The ASR-11 feeds more data more reliably to air traffic control for greater safety and efficiency."**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/1020/web-faa-10-21-03.a.sp>

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## Postal and Shipping Sector

10. *October 21, DM News* — **New USPS EPM digitally protects Microsoft documents.** The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) announced last week the availability of the USPS Electronic Postmark Extension for Microsoft Office, giving users **tamper detection and date/time stamping of electronic documents and files.** The extension requires the user to digitally sign a document when applying a USPS Electronic Postmark within Microsoft Office XP and Microsoft Office 2003. The system will allow: digital signing of a Microsoft Office Word document using digital certificates; electronic content sealing and time/date stamping with the USPS EPM; and subsequent verification of an MS Word document's validity, authenticity and integrity.

Source: [http://www.dmnews.com/cgi-bin/artprevbot.cgi?article\\_id=25344](http://www.dmnews.com/cgi-bin/artprevbot.cgi?article_id=25344)

11. *October 21, Star* — **FedEx sees strong Asian growth.** FedEx Corp, the world's largest air-express delivery company, plans to add 100 Chinese cities to its network over the next five years on expectations that the Asian air cargo industry will boom as the region liberalizes. FedEx chief operating officer Michael Ducker said air cargo volumes were growing at nine percent a year in Asia, against three percent globally, and were likely to keep growing at a steady rate. "The beginning of the supply chain is here in Asia," Ducker said in an interview on the sidelines of a business leaders' conference held ahead of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) summit. "In Asia, air cargo growth is estimated at six to seven percent annually over the next 20 years and China is expected to be the top market in the world for cargo. We currently serve 220 cities in China and in five years we want to add 100 to that service network." Aircraft now carry around two percent of international trade by volume, but around 40 percent by value. FedEx's main competitors are European-based DHL Worldwide Express and UPS Inc. of the United States.

Source: <http://biz.thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2003/10/21/business/6533663&sec=business>

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## Agriculture Sector

12. *October 21, AgWeb* — **Biotech benefits.** According to a report released by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), worldwide adoption of biotechnology in crop production has the potential to generate substantial gains in global welfare. ABARE executive director, Dr. Brian Fisher, Tuesday said conservative attitudes resulting in bans on production and trade in genetically modified (GM) products could erode these gains. In the study, ABARE analyzed the economic effects on different groups of countries of adopting GM technologies and of trade policies for GM products. **Results from the analysis indicate that global economic gain from a worldwide full adoption of biotechnology in crop production could amount to \$210 billion a year, by 2015. Potential restrictions on production and trade in GM crops in the European Union are estimated to reduce this gain by \$43 billion to \$167 billion. If, in addition, poorer developing countries failed to adopt the technology, the world gain could decline to \$134 billion, says ABARE.** "However, the negative impacts of the EU policies on adopting regions' incomes are estimated



to be relatively minor," Fisher explained. "In contrast, the impacts of EU restrictions on the use of GM technologies on the European Union itself could be substantial."

Source: [http://www.agweb.com/news\\_show\\_news\\_article.asp?file=AgNewsArticle\\_200310211244\\_712&articleID=102328&newscat=GN](http://www.agweb.com/news_show_news_article.asp?file=AgNewsArticle_200310211244_712&articleID=102328&newscat=GN)

13. *October 21, University of Nebraska–Lincoln* — **Vaccine, bacterial feed additive reduce E. coli in cattle. A new vaccine and a bacterial feed additive each significantly reduced E. coli O157:H7 in feedlot cattle, University of Nebraska (NU) research shows.** NU tested the effectiveness of both E. coli control methods under typical feedlot conditions in studies of more than 1,100 cattle in the university's feedlots. Results of these extensive trials look promising, said Terry Klopfenstein, an animal scientist at NU. For these studies, steers received either: a developmental vaccine, a commercially available Lactobacillus acidophilus feed additive as a direct-fed microbial, or no treatment. **The vaccine proved most effective at reducing the proportion of cattle shedding E. coli in their manure. Vaccination reduced E. coli prevalence 59 percent compared with unvaccinated steers, said NU Veterinary Scientist David Smith. Feeding Lactobacillus acidophilus, a specially selected strain of a bacteria commonly used in yogurt, reduced prevalence 35 percent compared with untreated steers.** Because O157:H7 is common in feedlots and can be reintroduced from other sources, complete eradication isn't likely. But controls that help reduce the organism at key times and perhaps cumulatively over time will have a significant effect, said Veterinary Scientist Rod Moxley. Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2003/10/031021061818.htm>
14. *October 21, Agence France Presse* — **Farming co-operative issues ban on GM crops. Britain's largest farmer, the Co-operative Group, said that it had imposed a preemptive ban on the growth of genetically modified (GM) crops on its 85,000 acres of farmland. The move by the co-operative society is part of a blanket ban across the group, which uses no GM ingredients in its own-brand supermarket goods and whose financial arm makes no investments in biotechnology companies.** "On the strength of current scientific knowledge, and the overwhelming opposition of our members, the Co-op is saying no to the commercial growing of GM crops in the UK," said Martin Beaumont, chief executive of the Co-operative Group. "Too little is still understood about this technology and how it would impact on our environment in future generations. Let the science and research continue, but, unless, or until, the case is convincingly made, the government has a responsibility to keep the lid on commercial growing," he added. **The British government has yet to make any commitment on whether to commercialize GM crops, and reports have claimed that in the current climate, a decision could well be put off until after the next election, likely in 2005.** Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/afp/20031021/sc\\_afp/britain\\_farm\\_biotech\\_gm\\_031021115707](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/afp/20031021/sc_afp/britain_farm_biotech_gm_031021115707)
15. *October 20, Government Accounting Office* — **Report–GAO–03–847: Actions Needed to Improve Security at Plum Island Animal Disease Center.** Scientists at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, in New York, are responsible for protecting the U.S. from animal diseases that could be accidentally or deliberately introduced into the country. Questions about the security of Plum Island arose after the September 11 attacks and when the employees of the contractor hired to maintain the facility went on strike in August 2002. **The Government Accounting Office (GAO) reviewed the adequacy of security at Plum Island. GAO found that security at the facility has improved but fundamental concerns leave the facility**

**vulnerable to security breaches.** First, Plum Island's security arrangements are incomplete. Second, Plum Island officials have been assuming unnecessary risks. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) assumed the administration of Plum Island from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on June 1, 2003. **GAO recommends that DHS consult with USDA to correct physical security deficiencies; further limit access to pathogens; consult with other laboratories to identify ways to mitigate the inherent difficulty of securing pathogens; enhance response capabilities; reconsider risks and threats; and revise security and incident response plans as needed.** Report highlights available at <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d03847high.pdf>.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-03-847>

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## **Food Sector**

16. *October 17, CIDRAP News* — **FDA reports progress on tests for food contamination.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Friday announced the release of a report to Congress on its progress toward developing faster tests to detect food contamination. **The report is in response to bioterrorism legislation passed in 2002, which requires the FDA to develop methods to detect contaminated foods and animal feed at U.S. ports of entry, the agency said.** The FDA has more than 90 active research projects dealing with test and sampling methods. **The Center for Veterinary Medicine validated an analytical method using polymerase chain reaction tests to detect cattle-derived materials in animal feeds to ensure compliance with rules to protect the nation from bovine spongiform encephalopathy. The Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA) developed an immunoassay method for detecting botulinum toxin in food. The ORA developed a mass-spectrometry-based method for detecting a wide variety of chemical toxins in food.** FDA Commissioner Mark B. McClellan said, "Because testing select agents in food represents a new field of scientific inquiry, the research needs are substantial and need to be sustained over several years."

Source: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/biosecurity/food-biosec/news/oct1703fda.html>

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## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Public Health Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Government Sector**

17. *October 21, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS seeks multipurpose technology. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials intend to fund the development of technology that can be used to fight not just terrorism, but other emergencies, too, according to chief information officer Steve Cooper.** Cooper, who spoke Tuesday at the Networked Economy Summit sponsored by George Mason University School of Law, told the gathering of industry officials that DHS is under a mandate from the Bush administration to develop multiple-use technology. **Technology should be available for multiple uses** because "I sure don't want to be looking up in a guide what to do for the first time when a terrorist emergency occurs," Cooper said. Cooper, echoing sentiments from a speech he gave earlier this week, also said the federal government will have to provide the money for a national infrastructure to share information in the same way the government built the interstate highway system in the 1950s.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/1020/web-cooper-10-21-03.asp>

18. *October 21, FOX News* — **Critics: Canadian immigration laws pose threat.** The United States' immigration policy focuses on putting the squeeze on the Mexican border to stop illegal immigrants from entering the country. **But the real threat, some say, comes from lax Canadian immigration laws that may be putting Americans at risk. Canadian intelligence experts say that country's immigration policies are a disaster.** Twenty years ago, Canada admitted 500 refugees from around the world, but last year, 40,000 people were allowed in. **Terrorism experts say it's not just how many illegal immigrants are being allowed in, but who is entering the country that is a concern.** After the September 11 terror attacks, the United States tightened security measures and set up an immigration registration system. Rather than registering, many Middle Eastern men went to Canada where laws allow refugees to enter with little scrutiny and stay indefinitely. "Given the lack of restriction on those claiming refugee status in Canada at the border, I don't know how you could assert we are not bringing in terrorists among other well meaning people," said Dave Harris, a Canadian intelligence expert. For example, Ahmed Ressam, an Algerian convicted of plotting to bomb Los Angeles Airport on New Year's Eve 2000, lived in Canada as a refugee. He was arrested in December 1999 as he tried to bring explosives across the U.S. border from Canada.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,100755,00.html>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

19. *October 21, Washington Post* — **Wireless carriers' charges to cover federal fees vary. Consumers have paid \$629 million in fees to the top 10 wireless phone carriers to cover various federal regulatory costs since January 2002,** according to a survey from the Center for Public Integrity released Monday, October 20, that criticized the companies for not



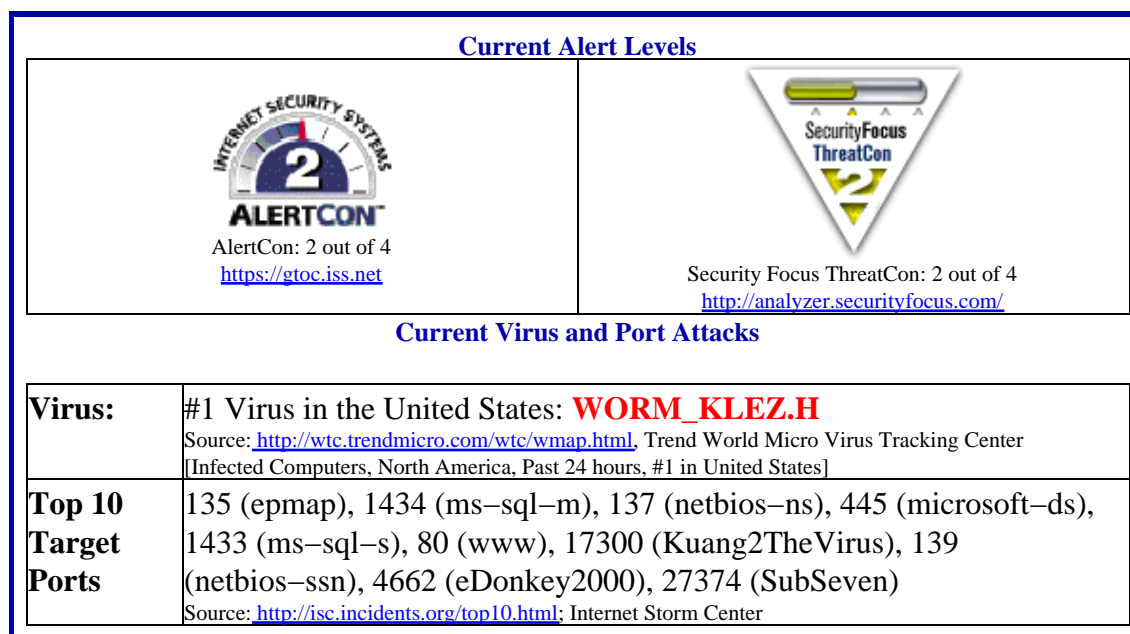
explaining those charges. The federal fees range by carrier from nothing to \$1.75 a month. **Cell-phone companies are permitted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to set their own price for complying with various laws, including ones that allow law enforcement to tap phone lines and identify the location of 911 calls.** Most cellular companies' bills have a regulatory line item intended to cover those costs. **There are no restrictions on how much a carrier can charge for regulatory compliance,** said Chelsea Fallon of the FCC. The FCC traditionally has allowed carriers to pass on regulatory costs and does not monitor how the money is spent, because competition creates a natural incentive to keep charges down, she said.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A55896-2003Oct20.html>

20. *October 20, eSecurity Planet* — **Another Microsoft patch, another masquerade.** Trying to capitalize on the latest mega-patch released last week by Microsoft, **a strain of the SWEN/Gibe virus is once again posing as a Microsoft security patch in an effort to trick users into running a Trojan Horse that opens up computers to remote attacks.** This time it is posing as one of the Microsoft patches released last week in Security Bulletin MS03-047. Ken Durham of iDefense said that while Swen was slow moving at first, it has proliferated nearly 3 million times since late September with small- and home-offices as well as the Far East region proving to be most vulnerable. Part of the problem is that **Swen arrives in the inbox as a .ZIP file that needs to be executed and many companies still allow .ZIP files through the firewall.** Microsoft said it never e-mails software patches.

Source: <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/trends/article.php/3095631>

### Internet Alert Dashboard



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## General Sector

21. *October 21, Associated Press* — **Iran agrees to suspend uranium enrichment. Iran will suspend uranium enrichment and allow unrestricted inspections of its nuclear program, as sought by the UN nuclear watchdog agency, a senior Iranian official said Tuesday after three European foreign ministers came to Tehran to press the international community's case. Iran set no date for the steps. Iran faces an October 31 deadline, set by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), to prove it does not have a nuclear weapons program as the United States alleges. Otherwise, the IAEA will likely turn to the UN Security Council, which could impose sanctions.** Iran also pledged to hand over long-sought information to the IAEA that should help it determine whether Tehran has tried to make nuclear weapons, diplomats said Tuesday in Vienna, where the agency is based.  
Source: <http://apnews.excite.com/article/20031021/D7UALVSG1.html>
22. *October 21, FOX News* — **Massive flooding prompts evacuations in Washington state. Volunteers stacked sandbags on levees Tuesday as the Skagit River rose toward an expected major flood crest following the second torrential rainstorm in the Pacific Northwest in less than a week.** Flood warnings were posted along 11 rivers in western Washington state. Record amounts of rain fell Monday on the region, where the ground already was saturated by a storm last Thursday blamed for one death, flooding, road washouts and mudslides. **Volunteers were assembled at daybreak Tuesday in Mount Vernon, 55 miles north of Seattle to sandbag around the downtown courthouse and revetments that protect the town from the Skagit.** No major damage was reported as of daybreak. Dan Berentson of the Skagit County Public Works Department said the river was expected to rise higher than the 1990 flood that caused \$160 million in damage. **Dozens of homes were evacuated Monday in northwestern Washington.**  
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0.2933.100773.00.html>
23. *October 20, U.S. Department of State* — **Travel Warning: Israel, the West Bank and Gaza.** The Department of State warns U.S. citizens to defer travel to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. **Ongoing violence has caused numerous civilian deaths and injuries, including to some American tourists, students and residents. The potential for further terrorist acts remains high.** In light of the lethal terrorist attack on U.S. Mission personnel in Gaza on October 15, 2003, the Department of State recommends that all U.S. citizens depart Gaza. **American citizens residing in the West Bank and Jerusalem should consider relocating to a safe location.** Roads designed for Israeli settlers, including in East Jerusalem, have been the sites of frequent shooting attacks and roadside explosives, sometimes resulting in death or injury. **The Government of Israel may deny entry at Ben Gurion Airport or at a land border to persons it believes might travel to "closed" areas in the West Bank or Gaza or to persons the Israeli authorities believe may sympathize with the Palestinian cause and are seeking to meet with Palestinian officials. Dual Palestinian-American citizens may encounter difficulties, or be barred from, entering and/or departing Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, especially during times of Israeli closures.**  
Source: [http://travel.state.gov/israel\\_warning.html](http://travel.state.gov/israel_warning.html)
24. *October 20, Associated Press* — **Indonesia warns of possible terrorist attacks. Indonesia's security minister on Monday, October 20, warned of the possibility of more terrorist attacks in Indonesia, two days before President Bush was to visit the archipelago.** Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono told a group of international business leaders that Indonesia must remain

vigilant despite the arrests of dozens of suspects in last year's Bali nightclub bombings and the attack in August on the J.W. Marriott hotel in Jakarta. **Yudhoyono, Indonesia's coordinating minister for political and security affairs, refused to provide details about the potential attacks but said the information was obtained through interrogations of defendants in the Bali and J.W. Marriott attacks.**

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/world/wire/sns-ap-bush-terror-warning.0.7035880.story?coll=sns-ap-world-headlines>

- 25. *October 18, U.S. Department of Homeland Security* — Statement from the Department of Homeland Security on al Qaeda Threats.** On October 10, 2003, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) released a joint Information Bulletin to all state and local authorities including elements of the private sector advising them that **recent multiple reports indicate terrorists may be poised to conduct simultaneous attacks in the near term against U.S. interests in a number of venues overseas and possibly in the U.S. The exact timing, targets, and locations of the possible attacks are unknown.** Some reports indicate that a large attack could follow a series of smaller operations in the Middle East and South Asia. The Information Bulletin was provided to sustain the awareness of appropriate state and local authorities and the private sector responsible for security of critical infrastructure and other potential target sets. **The recent al Qaeda tape continues to emphasize that the United States remains their number one target.** The United States remains at Threat Level Yellow, Elevated, and encourages all state and local authorities and Americans to remain vigilant in the war against terrorism.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>

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### **DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information**

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

**[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#)** – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

**[DHS/IAIP Publications](#)** – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

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### **Contact DHS/IAIP**

To report any incidents or to request information from DHS/IAIP, contact the DHS/IAIP Watch at [nipc.watch@fbi.gov](mailto:nipc.watch@fbi.gov) or call 202-323-3204.

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